



THURSDAY EVENING, DEC. 10, 1908.

From Washington.

(Correspondence of the Alexandria Gazette.)

Washington, Dec. 10.

That the labors of the National Rivers and Harbors Convention now in session here will result in favorable consideration by Congress, of a comprehensive plan for the improvement of the national waterways, is the general belief here today. If Congress does not at the present time take the desired steps along these lines, it is expected that President-elect Taft will include the subject in his call for the special session after March 4, that will meet to revise the tariff. Mr. Clark, democratic leader in the House, declared today that if the rivers and harbors congress would present a comprehensive and feasible plan for waterway improvement to Congress, the plan undoubtedly would be endorsed. A committee on resolutions advised by members of Congress, will draft a tentative bill, and it is understood that a representative in Congress will present it after the holidays.

President-elect Taft and Speaker Cannon will hold their second conference late this afternoon and, unless all signs fail, the two will come to an understanding on the tariff question. The republican members of the ways and means committee will be present at the meeting but they are not expected to play an important part. Mr. Taft's friends assert they are to be there merely "to save the speaker's face." "The speaker has seen the light already," said one of the Taft supporters today, "but he has been such a consistent snailpater that he cannot with good grace come down out of the tree as soon as Taft pulls the gun." Whatever may happen at the conference, it is a safe prediction that an official announcement declaring peace and harmony between the executive and legislative branches of the party will be made after it is over.

In line with the plan for some definite action by the Rivers and Harbors Convention, as to the improvement of the national waterways, the joint conference of governors and the national conservation commission is expected to ask some definite legislation looking to the preservation of the national wealth before it adjourns this week. Whether or not the suggestion of Governor Chamberlain that a department of conservation with the power in eminent domain, and the regulation and control of all the national wealth, will be adopted, is a question, but the governors are agreed that whatever plan is finally adopted, shall be carried out by all. A committee on resolutions, of which ex-Gov. Pardee, of California, is chairman has been appointed to receive suggestions as to actions. The committee held a long discussion last night and will receive resolutions every day until the close of the conference, when a plan for action will have been mapped. The committee on resolutions will probably present two plans, one embodying the suggestion of Governor Chamberlain, that the nation be given control, and one suggesting definite and concurrent action by all the governors at once. Today's session was given over to the discussion of the report of the division of forestry, and the report of the division of water.

After several conferences the republican leaders in the House agreed this afternoon upon a line of action in dealing with the president for his alleged insubordination to Congress in his annual message. A resolution will be presented, probably in the afternoon, reciting the facts involved in the controversy, and calling for the appointment of a select committee to investigate, and to report to the House such action as will comply with dignity and honor of the House. When the members of the House and Senate reached the Capitol today, it was plain to be seen that the only question remaining for decision was the form in which they should express their resentment to the president's words. The more they talked the larger it grew and the opinion was general that the criticism should not be allowed to go unanswered. The democrats in the House helped the fight along by saying that they would take over the president unless the republicans took action. The latter assured them that they would do full justice to the case, and the democrats, accordingly, are watching with satisfaction the growth of the battle fever among the opposition.

That the manufacturers of the country are solidly behind the work of the National Rivers and Harbors Congress, was the statement of James W. Van Cleave, president of the National Association of Manufacturers. Mr. Van Cleave made an address today in favor of the improvement of the national waterways and declared that the United States can not afford to go longer undeveloped.

Before the House ways and means committee today E. M. McCullough, of Philadelphia, representing the coal operators of Pennsylvania and West Virginia, protested against the placing of coal on the free list, unless Canada should agree to the admission of American coal.

Chairman Payne, of the House ways and means committee, today announced that Mr. Andrew Carnegie, who was formally subpoenaed last night, would appear next week. The iron master was expected to testify today, but had requested that he be excused till next week.

The president today nominated George Wales, of Vermont, chief examiner of the civil service commission.

Court martial of Commander Charles O. Marsh, son-in-law of Rear Admiral R. D. Evans, commanding the cruiser Yankee, was ordered by the navy department today. He is charged with negligence in the grounding of his ship at the entrance of Buzzards bay two months ago. The trial will take place on the receiving ship Wabash, at Boston.

It is believed that President Roosevelt is preparing another broadside in the noted controversy over the identity of the men who got \$40,000,000 for the old Panama canal company property. This impression was heightened today by a visit at the White House of H. W. Farnam, a New York lawyer, who acted as William Nelson Cromwell's assistant in the negotiations leading up to and following the transfer of the property by the French government to the United States.

Henry G. Worthington, an aged member of Congress, formerly from Nevada today suffered a severe attack of apoplexy while visiting on the floor of the House, falling unconscious near the cloak room. Congressman Barchfield who is a physician in yesterday's issue, of the Alexandria Gazette, was summoned to his side and the aged man was removed to the minority room. He was later taken to his home in this city.

Virginia News.

Alexandria, Dec. 10.—The twenty-eighth year of his age.

Frederick Prescott, a young man of Marassa, disappeared November 28, and his father and friends have no idea what has become of him.

Argument began in Richmond Tuesday in the suit of that city to compel the Western Union Telegraph Company to put its wires under ground.

One hundred thousand bushels of Virginiaysters are now lying at Virginia docks without a market. Not since the civil war has such a condition existed.

The U. S. cruiser North Carolina was successfully docked Tuesday in the new dry dock at the Norfolk navy yard, this being the first vessel to be received since the completion of the dock.

Judge Waddill is suffering from a nervous breakdown, and under the advice of his physician, is remaining at his home, in Richmond, for a few days' rest. His many friends hope that he will soon be restored to health.

The state of Virginia will pay interest on the public debt January 1, checks now being made out for this purpose by the clerical force in the auditor's office. The amount to be disbursed is \$420,000, most of which goes to the citizens of the state.

The general hospital board of the state met at Lynchburg Tuesday to consider the matter of deciding on a location in Amherst county for the state epileptic colony, as provided by an act of the legislature. After inspecting two sites resolutions were passed deferring further consideration of the matter until after the meeting of the next legislature.

Messrs. Davis & Davis, Washington patent attorneys, report the grant, this week, to citizens of this state, of the following patents: T. M. Backwell, of Basic City; D. W. Bradford, of Richmond, holding mechanism; F. A. Dabney and W. Smith, of Lynchburg, post-card cabinet; F. E. Hodges, of Old Office, rotary engine (two patents); W. Springrove, of Portsmouth, hydrocarbon-burner.

U. S. Judge Waddill, jr., entered an order in the Circuit Court of Richmond Tuesday on a petition filed by the Metropolitan Trust Company of New York, trustees of the debtors bondholders in the Virginia Passenger and Power Company litigation, allowing an appeal from his decree of sale looking to a foreclosure of the present receivership involving the street railway companies of Richmond, Manchester and Petersburg.

After having been locked in the police station since last Saturday night, Sam B. Tucker, the negro who was arrested on suspicion of having stolen \$10,000 worth of jewelry belonging to Mr. O. E. Buck, of Richmond and New York, while she was a passenger on the Atlantic Coast Line last Friday, yesterday morning confessed. The jewels and \$250 in gold were found by detectives hidden beneath the porch of Tucker's home.

Hugh Gordon Miller, formerly of Norfolk, and now of New York, has been appointed an assistant attorney general of the United States. The appointment was made by Attorney General Bonaparte at the request of President Roosevelt. The specific duty for which Mr. Miller is appointed is that of intervening in the suit brought by the state of New York against the state of New Jersey and Passaic Valley Sewerage Commissioners to enjoin the construction of the proposed Passaic Valley sewer.

Major M. J. Eoright, chief of police deputy to United States Marshal Morgan Treat, was yesterday in Richmond asked to surrender the keys of his desk and to tender his resignation forthwith. No explanation for this action was offered by Marshal Treat further than the laconic remark that "Eoright can no longer work in this office." It was learned from various sources that the differences resulting in the summary dismissal of Eoright had their origin in the old fight in the republican party in that district, which has been waged with varying success for some years between factions locally known as the Allen and anti-Allen factions.

CANNON NOT A CZAR. Speaker Cannon yesterday declared in a public address that never since 1880 had there been a time when under the rules of the House, either under republican or democratic control, that a majority of the members had not been able to register their will in legislation.

He was speaking of a delegation of about 200 members of the Ohio River Improvement Association, which through its chairman, presented him with a memorial urging the improvement of the Ohio river, at a cost of \$63,000,000, to be paid in bonds.

"I appreciate," said Mr. Cannon, "that you approach me because I occupy the office of speaker. I know that they say that I am the czar, and that I have more power to bind and to loose than St. Peter when he was said to him: 'On this rock I build my Church.' But that is incorrect. The speaker's function is to preside over the House, to enforce its rules, and nothing more."

He then declared that, in view of this fact, it would rest with the committee on rivers and harbors to make recommendations in this, as in all other matters pertaining to the improvement of the waterway of the country, with the House and Senate, and lastly with the president.

Referring to the suggestion for the issuance of bonds for the proposed improvements, he called attention to the fact that at present all improvements of the kind contemplated are made under contract, and said that the country had never yet failed to provide the money for such work. "I cannot tell," he said, "how the money is to be obtained for the vast improvements needed, but that there will be sufficient for all necessary changes I am quite certain."

In the swing of the twentieth century I have no doubt that there will be expended no less than \$10,000,000,000 in the improvement of the waterways of the country, but of necessity some of this work must be done by those who must follow after us." He was not unimpressed, he said, that there were some who did not want to wait on "the swing of the twentieth century," because, as he well understood, many of them would then be in a region where it would be necessary to clothe themselves in asbestos, but he maintained that such a course might be necessary.

Best on complete examination of the cannibal tribes which have preyed for years on the European settlements on both sides of the line between Portuguese and French Guinea, a force 600 Portuguese has just marched to join a Gallic body of similar size already in the field in the interior.

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Today's Telegraphic News

To Abolish the House of Lords.

London, Dec. 10.—The abolition of the House of Lords and the substitution of a long term elective body, patterned largely after the United States Senate, is the far-reaching aim of the British Cabinet, disclosed today in the decision to introduce a taxation bill in parliament in May, the provisions of which will fall almost exclusively upon the people of wealth. The constant rejection by the lords of the measures of the liberal party has stirred up a storm of popular resentment, and the passage of the proposed taxation bill is counted on to win as much favor that the cabinet can resign in June, thus forcing a general parliamentary election. As the lords will have nothing to say regarding the bill, it being a bit of financial legislation, it is inevitable that it will pass. The abolition of the House of Lords will be the chief subject of discussion. Even the maintenance of free trade will be made a secondary matter. The liberal leaders are endeavoring to hide their plan in the hope of surprising their opponents. The plan, however, has been almost completed and there is no doubt of its adoption.

Burglar Confesses. New York, Dec. 10.—Confronted with a mother bearing her babe in her arms, and with the red mark of a blow on the butt of his revolver still visible on her forehead, a suspected burglar broke down completely at police headquarters today and recited a tale of widespread crime that astonished even the police. The man then, the police assert, revealed the whereabouts of lost valuables at \$10,000 all of which have been recovered.

Mrs. Margaret Wagner identified the man, who gave his name as John Brady, Brady told the police he has a wife and seven children. Losing his job during the hard times a year ago, he turned robber to get them bread. In the guise of an inspector of gas meters, with a bogus badge, he entered hundreds of houses and stole many thousands of dollars worth of valuables.

Train Robbers Outwitted. Spokane, Wn., Dec. 10.—The presence of mind of Fireman Perrin of a Great Northern train early today saved \$20,000 to the express company which had cash in its care. The train was flagged and three men jumped in the cab. The engineer was covered by one of the gang while the other uncoupled the train. It was still dark and Perrin, noticing that the bandits seemed to know the makeup of the train, stepped ahead of the express car and uncoupled the mail and baggage cars, leaving the car with the cash on the train. The engineer and fireman were then compelled to run ahead of the rest of the train with the two cars and after they had proceeded a mile they were stopped and the two of the trio looted the mail and the baggage car. They got a couple of registered pouches, but no other valuables.

Martial Law for India. Calcutta, Dec. 10.—Practical martial law will prevail throughout India when the bill providing for the summary trial and execution of traitors, introduced in the Indian Council today, becomes a law. The bill, which will undoubtedly pass, has long been demanded by the English residents of the empire as the only possible way to check the rising wave of sedition. It is considered the most radical step yet taken. Investigation into the ammunition magazine explosion at the military station of Dum Dum, in which two score soldiers were killed and wounded, has shown conclusively that it was the work of anarchists. An attempt was made to make it appear as accidental, but unmistakable evidence of a plot was discovered today.

Shot in a Hotel. Bakersfield, Cal., Dec. 10.—A sensational shooting affray which may result fatally to Adrian Von Plank, an actor, precipitated a panic in the Grand Hotel here yesterday. E. N. Blacker, wealthy owner of a transfer concern, claims to have discovered his wife in the company of the thespian. Von Plank was shot in the neck, breast and back, the latter bullet entering the extremities. Blacker is being held pending the outcome of Von Plank's wounds.

Mutiny Spreads. Ojess, Dec. 10.—The spread of mutiny among the troops that Austria is sending to the frontier has reached the stage where numerous military executions are taking place. Positive information of this was received today. Austria is rigidly suppressing the news of the army disaffection, but it is known that entire companies en route to the frontier are refusing to obey orders and that the government is deeply alarmed.

Railroad Accident. Bismarck, N. D., Dec. 10.—Twenty-five persons were hurt, one fatally, in the wreck of the North Coast Limited on the Northern Pacific Railway near McKendzie, 20 miles from here. The middle of the train jumped the track while running at a high rate of speed, the coupling broke and all of the passenger and sleeping cars tumbled down a ten-foot embankment. Spreading rails are believed to have caused the accident.

Arrest of a Suspect. Trenton, N. J., Dec. 10.—John Kestowski, the Newark man arrested here yesterday on suspicion of having designs on the life of President Roosevelt, whom he declared he was about to visit in Washington, is being held pending advice from the secret service authorities who have been notified. He refused to talk concerning himself. It is believed now that he is a harmless crank.

Debs Acquitted. Omaha, Neb., Dec. 10.—After an all night session the case of T. J. Davis, accused of murdering Dr. Rustin as a result of a suicide pact, this morning resulted a verdict of not guilty. The jury stood from the outset, it is reported, 11 to 1 for acquittal, the one lone juror holding out for a manslaughter verdict.

The whereabouts of P. Z. Kieran, of the Fidelity Funding Company, are still said to be unknown.

It is a Wonder. Chamberlain's Liniment is one of the most remarkable preparations yet produced for the relief of rheumatic pains, and for lame back, sprains and bruises. The quick relief from pain which it affords in case of rheumatism is alone worth many times its cost. Price 25c, large size 50c. For sale by W. F. O'Leigh & Co., and Richard Gibson.

MUSICAL GIFTS

Don't wait until Xmas—but select now from our large and varied assortment of musical instruments—

Victor Talking Machines . . . \$10 to \$200.
Columbia Phonographs . . . \$25 to \$200.
Full line double disc records.
Martin Guitars . . . \$20 to 75
Vega Mandolins . . . \$15 to \$100
Fairbanks Banjos . . . \$10 to \$90
Violins from . . . \$5 up

Full line Leather Cases for all instruments. Large assortment Music Rolls Sold on terms to suit. Old instruments taken as part payment.

Sanders & Stayman Co.,

1327 F Street N. W., Washington, D. C.
WASHINGTON, D. C.
PERCY S. FOSTER, Manager.
George B. Kennedy,
Alexandria Representative.

Official.

CITY GAS WORKS.

OFFICE OF THE CITY GAS WORKS, ALEXANDRIA, VA., November 30, 1908.

To the Honorable City Council of Alexandria, Va.
Gentlemen: As required by law I hereby submit the report of the receipts of the City Gas Works for the six months ending November 30, 1908:

	1907	1908
June 1st there remained unpaid gas bills amounting to	\$49 82	\$715 87
Of which I have collected		\$49 82
Carried to profit and loss by order of Council bill of Alexandria Light Infantry	145 30	616 12
Leaving unpaid	\$99 75	\$74 81
Of which 75 per cent are worthless		24 94
Leaving balance of		\$16,101 35
A reference to the comparative statement which is made a part of this report will show under the head of "Net Amount" that there has been sold to consumers for six months ending Nov. 1st, 1908		15,414 15
Of this amount I have collected		\$686 70
Amount of monthly bills which are dated November 1st and have until December 15th, to entitle them to discount and which are unpaid		322 19
Amount of bills due and unpaid November 10th		\$684 51
Respectfully submitted,		J. B. WALLER, Clerk of Gas.

Comparative statement showing amount of gas sold during six months ending November 30, 1908, as compared with same period of year 1907:

	1907	1908
June	5,044,700	4,713,400
July	1,023,100	1,385,500
August	1,281,100	1,104,800
September	3,704,200	3,670,600
October	1,246,900	1,939,000
November	1,885,900	1,985,200
Total	14,289,900	14,637,500
Gross revenue	\$6,553 11	\$6,126 12
Discount	\$1,008 94	\$942 48
Net amount received	\$5,544 17	\$5,183 64
July	1,333 93	1,814 15
August	1,655 43	1,436 24
September	4,815 46	4,641 78
October	1,750 57	2,546 70
November	2,452 97	2,463 76
Total	18,076 87	19,028 75
Increase	3,786 96	951 88

Comparative statement showing receipts from sale of coke from June 1st 1908, to November 1st, 1908, as compared with same period of 1907:

	1908	1907
June	\$188 92	\$188 92
July	\$244 73	\$137 40
August	\$303 00	\$151 77
September	\$327 43	\$129 15
October	\$411 81	\$198 87
November	\$463 19	\$211 32
Total	\$2,009 08	\$771 91
Increase	\$1,237 17	\$1,237 17
Decrease	\$38 59	\$21 51

AMMONIA.
Increase.....\$375 60

Divided on Indemnity. Constantinople, Dec. 10.—Turkey and Austria are again divided on the amount of indemnity that the latter is to pay the former for the annexation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, according to a statement by the foreign office today. A difference of \$18,750,000 separates the two nations, Turkey demanding \$31,250,000 and Austria refusing to pay more than \$12,500,000. Foreign diplomats here are agreed that Turkey's figures are excessive and that it is but a bit of characteristic oriental bargaining from which she will recede before finally terminating the negotiations.

Another War Scare. London, Dec. 10.—War between Austria and Serbia is considered so imminent that heavy owners of stocks, fearing the inevitable slump that would accompany the war, began insuring today in Lloyds against an outbreak. Lloyds' minimum rate for insuring against a war in three months is 25 per cent. But few underwriters are accepting even this premium. The rate against an Austro-Turkish outbreak is 12 per cent.

FAKE HAIR PREPARATION Do Hair No Good, But Often Cause It to Fall Out. Many hair preparations are "fake" because they are merely scalp irritants. They cause a dryness, making the hair brittle, and, finally, lifeless. Dandruff is the cause of all trouble with hair. It is a germ disease. The germ makes itself soles as it digs to the root of the hair, where it destroys the hair's vitality, causing it to fall out. To cure dandruff, you must remove the effect. Destroy the germ, and the hair will grow luxuriantly. Sold by Ernest L. Allen & Co., agents. Two sizes 50c and \$1.00. Send 10c in stamps for sample to The Herpicide Co., Detroit, Mich.

Castro at Bordeaux. Bordeaux, Dec. 10.—President Castro of Venezuela landed here this afternoon from the Guadalupe. No opposition at all was offered at his disembarkation. Carriages were in waiting for Castro and his suite and the party was driven at once to their hotel.

Paris, Dec. 10.—The foreign office this afternoon received a request from its representative at Bordeaux for further instructions regarding the treatment to be accorded Castro. The foreign office will not disclose the nature of the reply. Special orders were sent to the authorities at Bordeaux, however, to guard Castro carefully, as the government had heard that a group of Assyrians and Egyptians have arrived in Bordeaux with the intention of assassinating him.

A Colossal Transaction. Pittsburg, Pa., Dec. 10.—A transaction involving millions of dollars has just been closed in New York city, whereby the United States Steel Corporation takes over the S. S. Steel Car Company with plants at Butler and New Castle, Pa., and Hammond, Ind., and the pressed Steel Car Company, with plants at McKees Rock, and the lower north side. These two concerns are the largest manufacturers of steel cars in the world, and the transaction involves more money than has been included in any deal affecting local capitalists in recent years.

E. T. Elphinstone, of Baltimore, Md., traveling for Sinclair Scott Car Machine Company, dropped dead in a Syracuse, N. Y., hotel lobby this morning.

DeWitt's Carbolized Witch Hazel Salve. Best salve for burns, scratches and cuts. It is especially good for piles. Sold by W. F. O'Leigh & Co.